13th August 1954]

Rules relating to rights and turns for water-supply for irrigation under the various channels and tanks of the Tambaraparni system.

* 1372 *Q.*—SRI S. T. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there are any rules about rights and turns for water-supply to irrigation under the various channels and tanks of the Tambaraparni system;

(*b*) if so, what they are;

(*c*) when such rules were framed;

(*d*) whether any changes have been made in these rules since the completion of the Papanasam Dam;

(*e*) if so, what they are; and

(*f*) if not, whether Government contemplate any changes in them consequent on the construction of the Papanasam Dam?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Yes.

" (*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the rules published in the *Tirunelveli District Gazette*, dated 2nd December 1907. If copies are required, they can be obtained from the Public Works Department Secretariat.

" (*c*) In 1907.

" (*d*) No.

" (*e*) Does not arise.

" (*f*) No."

SRI P. SELVARAJ :—" The ayacutdars have prior right to receive unfettered supply of water from the Tambaraparni river. But now, after the construction of the Papanasam Dam, the water is utilized for hydro-electric purposes and is not allowed to flow for irrigation purposes. So, in times of water scarcity, will the Government give priority of supply to the ayacutdars for irrigation purposes? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The hon. Member is confusing the Papanasam Dam with the Tambaraparni Dam. The Papanasam Dam was constructed for hydro-electric purposes."

SRI S. T. ADITYAN :—" Has the Hon. Minister received any representations as to the necessity of a change in the existing rules relating to water-flow under the Papanasam Dam? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The rules relating to water-flow under the Papanasam Dam are being examined."